

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of claims**

Claim 1 (Currently amended): Microphone cover for hearing devices for at least partially covering openings [[(6)]] arranged at the outside of the hearing device, comprising a ring [[(2)]] with racks [[(4)]] overdrawing the opening of the ring [[(2)]], whereby the outer diameter of the ring [[(2)]] is nearly equivalent with the inner diameter of the corresponding opening [[(6)]] of the hearing device, ~~such as and~~ the ring [[(2)]] is at least partly insertable within the opening [[(6)]].

Claim 2 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein the ring (2) consists of a substantially circular flat disk with a centrally arranged opening.

Claim 3 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein the ring (2) consists of a tapered or rounded brink (2') directed to the outside of the hearing device in its fitted state.

Claim 4 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein at least three racks (4) are arranged in regular distance to each other and are coupled together in the centre of the ring (2).

Claim 5 (Currently amended): Microphone cover according to claim 1 for hearing devices for at least partially covering openings arranged at the outside of the hearing device, comprising a ring with racks overdrawing the opening of the ring, whereby the outer diameter of the ring is nearly equivalent with the inner diameter of the corresponding opening of the hearing device, as and the ring is at least partly insertable within the opening, wherein the bars (4) racks are convex curved to the outside of the ring [(2)] in its fitted state.

Claim 6 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein it consists of a one piece plastic.

Claim 7 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein it is made in injection molding technique.

Claim 8 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein the ring (2) or the racks (4) respectively are connected directly with a bar-shaped tool (7).

Claim 9 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 8, wherein the tool (7) is connected over at least one bridge (9) with the ring (2) or the racks (4) respectively, whereby the bridge (9) is provided as predetermined breaking point.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): Microphone cover according to claim 9, for hearing devices for at least partially covering openings arranged at the outside of the hearing device, comprising a ring with racks overdrawing the opening of the ring, whereby the outer diameter of the ring is nearly equivalent with the inner diameter of the corresponding opening of the hearing device, as and the ring is at least partly insertable within the opening,

wherein the ring or the racks respectively are connected directly with a bar-shaped tool,

wherein the tool is connected over at least one bridge with the ring or the racks respectively, whereby the bridge is provided as predetermined breaking point, and,

wherein the ring [(2)], the racks [(4)] and the tool [(7)] consist of one piece.

Claim 11 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 10, wherein the one piece consist of plastic manufactured by injection molding.

Claim 12 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 8, whereby the end of the tool (7) opponent to the ring (2) is provided as a holding device or fork.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): Microphone cover according to claim 12, for hearing devices for at least partially covering openings arranged at the outside of the hearing device, comprising a ring with racks overdrawing the opening of the ring, whereby the outer diameter of the ring is nearly equivalent with the inner diameter of the corresponding opening of the hearing device, as and the ring is at least partly insertable within the opening.

wherein the ring or the racks respectively are connected directly with a bar-shaped tool,

whereby the end of the tool opponent to the ring is provided as a holding device or fork,

wherein the holding device consists of two resiliently arranged fingers [[(8)]] with locking means [[(8')]].

Claim 14 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein the ring (2) is provided with flanges (5) protruding to its center.

Claim 15 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein the surface is at least partly covered with a hydrophobe coating.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein a filter [[(10)]] is arranged at the inside of the ring [[(2)]], preferably and provided as a circular disk covering the opening of the ring [[(2)]].

**Claim 17 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 16, wherein the filter (10) is attached firmly or detachable to the ring (2).**

**Claim 18 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 17, wherein the filter (10) is glued to the ring (2).**

**Claim 19 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 17, wherein the filter (10) is shifted or snap locked within the ring (2).**

**Claim 20 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 16, wherein the filter (10) consists of metal wire or natural or synthetic fabrics.**

**Claim 21 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 16, wherein the filter (10) consists of a fleece consisting of natural or synthetic fabrics.**

**Claim 22 (Original): Microphone cover according to claim 16, wherein the filter (10) consists of a sinter body made out of metal, plastic or ceramic.**

**Claim 23 (Original): Hearing device with openings (6) arranged at the outside of the hearing device, with a microphone cover (1) comprising a ring (2) with racks (4) overdrawing the opening of the ring (2), whereby the outer diameter of the ring (2) is equivalent with the inner diameter of the corresponding opening (6) of the hearing device, and further comprising stop means (11) in the inside of the opening (6) to limit the insertion depth of the ring (2).**

**Claim 24 (Original):** Hearing device according to claim 23, wherein a microphone (14) is arranged within the hearing device and connected by a channel (13) with the opening (6).

**Claim 25 (Original):** Hearing device according to claim 23, wherein the stop means are arranged at a depth (t) in relation with the opening (6) that is equal or smaller then the external extend of the microphone cover (1).

**Claim 26 (Original):** Hearing device according to claim 23, wherein the inside surface of the opening (6) is at least partially rough to provide a friction joint with the corresponding surface of the microphone cover (1).

**Claim 27 (Original):** Use of a microphone cover according to claim 1 in hearing devices or hearing aids or in-the-ear hearing devices for the covering of openings (6) of microphones.

**Claim 28 (New):** Microphone cover according to claim 1, wherein the ring is insertable into the opening from the outside of the hearing device.